

管治萬有的主

「我信上帝，全能的父」的正確翻譯為「我信上帝、父、全能者」。

「全能者」是一個舊約的觀念。

對全能者的信仰：

誤解：「全能」等如「無所不能」？

聖經中所論到的「全能」和哲學家所謂的「無所不能」根本拉不上關係。上帝是一個「有本性的上帝」；他不能幹一些違反自己本性的事。

當聖經論到上帝的「全能」，重點不在於臆測祂的「能」與「不能」，而是要指出上帝的「治權」。

迷信的人喜歡臆測鬼神的能力，來決定如何收買。我們卻臣服於管治萬有的上帝。

我們信仰的起步點，必須是對那掌管萬有之主的敬拜。

正確翻譯：我信上帝，管治萬有的父。

經課：列王紀下十八至十九章；詩篇第四十六篇

反省：面對著社會的不公義，是什麼驅使教會繼續奮鬥？

反省：面對著自己的軟弱，是什麼使我相信上帝仍然會拯救我？

認信：掌管我們生命和世界歷史的，既不是命運、際遇、和時勢，更不是天時、地利、與人和。縱然生命到了絕境、縱然罪惡好像得勝，我們仍然相信，掌管萬有的始終是那位坐在高天的耶和華。

The All-Sovereign Lord

The correct translation for “I believe in God, the Father Almighty” is “*I believe in God, the Father, the Almighty One.*”

“The Almighty One” is an Old Testament concept.

I Believe in the Almighty One:

Misconception: Almighty = Omnipotent?

The scriptural “almighty” has nothing to do with what the philosophers refer to as “omnipotence.” God is a god of character; He never does things that are contrary to His character.

“He can assuredly according to us do anything, that is, anything that can be done without detriment to His divinity, His goodness, or His wishes.”

Origen “Contra Celsum”

“I can tell the sort of things He could not do. He cannot die, He cannot sin, He cannot lie, He cannot be deceived. Such things He cannot: if He could, He would not be almighty.”

St. Augustine “Sermon 214”

When the Bible asserts that God is almighty, the emphasis is not on what He can or cannot do, but on the sovereignty of God over all things.

Let the pagans worry about whether their gods are powerful enough to worth their briberies, we instead submit to the supreme lordship of the Almighty One.

The starting point of our faith must be our worship of this all-sovereign God.

Correct translation: I believe in God, the Father, the all-ruling/all-sovereign Lord.

Scriptures for Reflection: 2 Kings 18-19; Psalms 46

Reflection: Facing the injustice of our society, what motivates the church to go on fighting?

Reflection: Knowing of our own weaknesses and sins, what assures us that God will deliver us from sin?

Confession: Governing our lives and history are not fate, chance or fortune, not powers political, economical, or social. In the darkest hours of our lives, when evil seems to prevail, the one who rules from heaven is still God our Lord.